

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

VICKY DILL, graduate student in the doctoral program at the University of Notre Dame and instructor in the Freshman Writing Program, is currently working on a study of the uses of science, particularly electricity, in Whitman and American nineteenth-century fiction.

PHILIP D. JORDAN received his doctoral degree in history from The University of Iowa in 1935 with a dissertation entitled "William Salter and the Influence of the Andover Band in Iowa, 1843-1910." Since his graduation, he has written numerous books and many articles and book reviews on such topics as public health, folk-lore, American songs, and frontier law and order. In 1969 he retired from the University of Minnesota and returned to his native home of Burlington, Iowa, where he has been active on the board of trustees of the Burlington Public Library and in giving talks to school, church, and public groups.

JOHN MARTIN, M.D., neurosurgeon and book collector, now makes his home in Clarinda, Iowa. He has served on the faculty of Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago, as chief of the Department of Neurological Service at Walter Reed Army Hospital, and as consultant to the Surgeon General, U.S. Army. His private library of books notable in the history of medicine forms the nucleus of the rare books collection in the Health Sciences Library at The University of Iowa.

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The fourteenth annual spring dinner of the Friends will be held on Friday evening, April 14, 1978. The speaker will be Dr. Joe B. Frantz, former director of the Texas State Historical Association, and now Walter Prescott Webb Professor of History and Ideas at the University of Texas, Austin. Dr. Frantz is the author of *Texas: a Bicentennial History* (1976), coauthor of *The American Cowboy: The Myth & the Reality* (1955), and editor of the *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*.

Life membership in the Friends is awarded to patrons whose gifts of rare books or financial contributions are at least \$1,000, and to sustaining members whose annual contributions of \$100 may become equivalent to this. Other annual memberships are solicited as follows: contributing memberships \$25, regular memberships \$10, student memberships \$5. Institutions are accepted as regular members.

On the back cover is a reproduction of the folding hand-colored plate showing the foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*) from William Withering's *An Account of the Foxglove*. The original plate measures 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 inches.

